

March 2006

Location

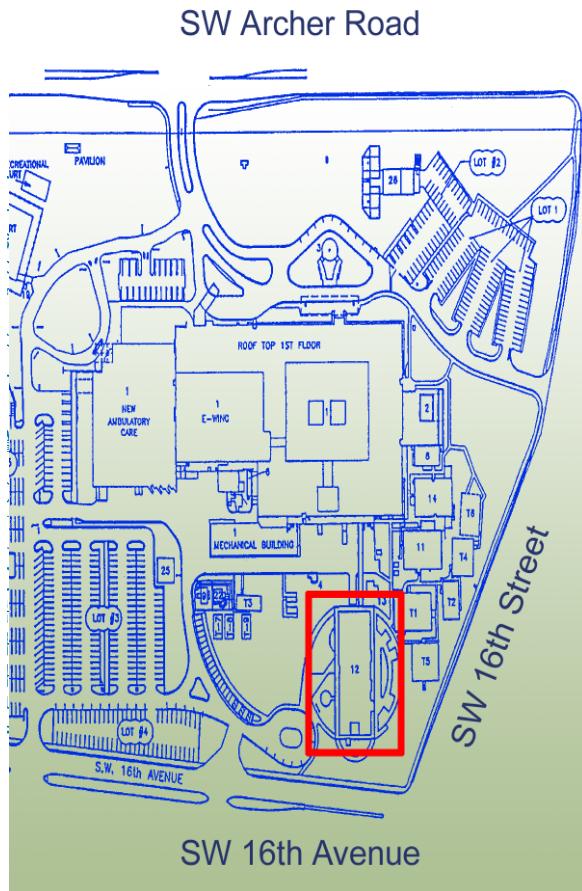
The GEM unit is in the Extended Care Building located between 16th Ave and the VA Hospital. We are on the 3rd floor.

Geriatric Evaluation and Management Unit

1601 SW Archer Road

Gainesville, FL 32608

(352) 376-1611 extension 6073



1601 S.W. Archer Road
Gainesville, FL 32608-1197
(352) 376-1611
<http://www.visn8.med.va.gov/nfsg>

Geriatric Evaluation & Management GEM Unit



Geriatric and
Extended Care Service

A Full Treatment Program

The Geriatric Evaluation and Management (GEM) unit provides short term treatment. We are here to help you improve your quality of life while dealing with the effects of illness or injury. The GEM unit has 14 to 18 beds with two beds in each room.

The treatment team members include:

-  You, the veteran
-  Family/caregiver
-  Physician
-  Nursing staff
-  Neurologist
-  Psychologist
-  Social Worker
-  Chaplain
-  Pharmacist
-  Physical Therapist
-  Occupational Therapist
-  Recreational Therapist
-  Speech Pathologist
-  Dietician

Your role as a patient

As part of your recovery and plan of care, you will eat in one of the dining rooms and wear your personal clothes. You will take part in physical, occupational, speech,

and recreational therapy. You will also take part in a weekly support group as ordered by your physician.

What You Need To Bring:

-  Shoes with good support.
-  Comfortable clothing (4 to 7 outfits)*
-  Personal toiletries (deodorant, toothpaste, shampoo, etc.)
-  Undergarments
-  Your own wheelchair or walker (if you use one)

*Laundry facilities are available. You or your family/caregiver will be responsible for washing your clothes.

The role of the family member/caregiver

GEM team members teach families/caregivers how to help provide treatment and care. Your family/caregiver will develop skills to help you during hospital treatment and after your return home. The GEM team may request that you and your family/caregiver stay in our GEM apartment located onsite. You may stay several days. This will give your family member/caregiver a chance to practice new skills before you return home.

Discharge Planning

Discharge planning involves you, your family/caregiver, and the GEM team. It is a key part of your care. Discharge planning begins on the first day you come to the GEM Unit. Our goal is for you to be able to leave within 30 days after admission. Discharge planning includes:

-  Setting therapy goals
-  Determining what home equipment will be needed
-  Identifying community support
-  Making sure your return home is a safe one.

Working together, we help veterans get the most out of their life — today and in the future.

